



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, May 5, 2004
Scottsdale Stadium Press box
7408 E. Osborn

Present: Chairperson Leigh Hersey, Vice-chair Donn Loper, Commissioner Shelley Anderson, Dean Cerimeli, Bill Heckman, and Nona Oliver

Absent and excused: Commissioner Stephen Owens

Staff Present: Amy Boenning, Greg Crossman, Liz Hildenbrand, Walt Johnson, Dave Mansfield, Bill Murphy, Doug Nesselroad, Tiffani Nichols, Kira Peters, Judy Weiss, and Rose Williams

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hersey called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairperson Hersey asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2004. Commissioner Cerimeli seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

William Murphy, Director of Parks and Grounds Management, updated the Commission on the Original Scottsdale Maintenance Program. Mr. Murphy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the efforts of this program of maintenance in the area of the city south of Indian Bend Road. Ms. Weiss updated the Commission on the May 1st Cinco de Mayo celebration at Paiute Park; the Accreditation review team is tentatively scheduled for the first week in August with a reception to be held that week; The City Council has a Budget meeting on May 17, 2004; the next regular Commission meeting will be May 19, 2004 at City Hall Kiva; La Mirada Grand Opening is Saturday, April 8, 2004; the Stadium Sleepover is May 8th and 9th; and the APRA Boards and Commissions Day is Thursday, September 2, 2004. 2004 Summer Registration numbers 2,344 with 123 over the front desk; E-Connect 1,521; and touchtone was 783.

Vice-chair Loper asked whom a citizen would phone for work in the north area. Mr. Murphy said the City has 13 million square feet of medians and rights of way throughout the city that is maintained by Parks and Grounds Management. The Original Scottsdale Maintenance Program focuses along street corridors south of Indian Bend Road. Vice-chair Loper asked who to call if it is not the City's responsibility. Mr. Murphy said private property calls would go to Code Enforcement and highway maintenance would be the Arizona Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Oliver asked if Code Enforcement is involved in this program. Mr. Murphy said the revitalization also involves Code Enforcement, Sanitation, Field Services, and Transportation. Commissioner Oliver asked if from the sidewalk to fence line who is taking care of dead trees. Mr. Murphy said that area is the property

owner's responsibility. If the tree is causing safety issues or sight obstruction City staff can go onto the property to remove or trim it. City staff maintains trees in the City parks regularly.

Commissioner Heckman asked with the new medians coming on line has the budget been adjusted to reflect that expanded responsibility. Mr. Murphy said it has and as those come on line the maintenance is included in the inventory and they are budgeted for in future budgets. Commissioner Heckman asked if the alleys in southern parts of the City are the responsibility of Parks or Transportation. Mr. Murphy said the Field Services staff maintains those alleys from fence line to fence line. Commissioner Heckman asked if a tree falls from private property will the staff move it out of the road or remove it. Mr. Murphy said the property owner is responsible for the removal. Staff will cut it up and put it on the property.

Commissioner Cerimeli asked if there is a permit process to evaluate the removal of a dead tree. Mr. Murphy said there are different aspects - in a native open space area it is necessary to evaluate the process; if it is in a park or median area the Staff will get an estimate from a contractor or take it down ourselves. Commissioner Cerimeli asked if you have to have a permit to move it. Mr. Murphy said that is done as a part of the design and review process all plants would be evaluated and included in the scope of work. Some native trees would be protected and boxed.

Vice-chair Loper asked if the \$200,000 in the budget for sports field maintenance was correct. Ms. Weiss said it was the total for 10 sites.

Commissioner Heckman noted he spoke to a resident that recently registered for Leisure Education dance class and indicated it was a very pleasant experience with the staff being prompt, efficient, and courteous.

Commissioner Heckman asked if the remainder of the sports field maintenance money will come from the Partnership Funding program what happens after 2005. Ms. Weiss said the fund was to partner with youth sports groups for enhancements. The left over funds will be transferred to the General Fund and the process will be different. The hope is to have the application process during the budget process. Commissioner Heckman stated he would not like to see those funds compromised.

Commissioner Oliver asked if the groups won't have to pay anymore anyone. Ms. Weiss said that is correct, all organizations will not have to pay a use fee.

Chairperson Hersey wanted to encourage the Commissioners to do what they could to attend the special events that the department advises them about.

APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report was presented to the Commission at the April 7, 2004 Commission meeting at Horizon Park and Community Center. Staff reviewed the report with the Commission and questions were addressed and/or answered.

Vice-chair Loper moved to approve the Annual Report as submitted by Staff. Commissioner Cerimeli seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON EFFLUENT WATER

At the Commission's request, Greg Crossman, Water Resources Engineer, provided an update and overview of the use of effluent water in the City of Scottsdale. Dave Mansfield, General Manager of Water Resources, also provided information to the Commission.

Commissioner Anderson noted that the strategy was impressive and makes sense. It is too bad it does not exist in the south end of the City. Mr. Crossman said it had to be located where there was available land. The strategy has been focused on the northern end of the City for this water. At some point in the future it could be done in the south. Commissioner Anderson asked if it was because the courses had to have this water. Mr. Crossman said it was a new requirement in the late 80 or early 90s and stated if you wanted to build a golf course you had to use recycled water. Commissioner Anderson noted that this could recharge the well system and that would be a

benefit to citizens because wells won't run dry. Mr. Crossman said there aren't a lot of wells in Scottsdale but this does benefit everyone as it keeps the wells charged.

Vice-Chair Loper asked if the biggest obstacle to providing this water to the southern area of town is the pipeline on Pima Road. Mr. Crossman said that is one and the water is committed to developed golf courses so another source would have to be developed. Vice-chair Loper asked why the water is only available in off peak months. Mr. Crossman said that was because of commitments to the courses and peak time is in the summer, May through September, and the water can't be guaranteed to other areas during that time.

Commissioner Heckman said he wants to reinforce that golf courses use 1 million gallons of water a day. Did the golf courses pool resources and fund this plant. Mr. Crossman said the courses funded the delivery system; it was a joint public private effort. Commissioner Heckman asked if that was because they don't have a private system. Mr. Crossman said that was correct. Gainey Ranch was the first prototype for this system. Commissioner Heckman asked if it could be expanded to McCormick Ranch. Mr. Crossman said that would be pretty difficult as they are landlocked. Commissioner Heckman asked, if when the need is met, that 8 million gallons of CAP water comes back to the City for other uses. Mr. Crossman said that was correct. Commissioner Heckman asked what is the differentiation between the plant at Chaparral and Hayden. Mr. Crossman said that plan will be treating surface CAP water for potable purposes. Commissioner Heckman asked how broad an area the Chaparral plant will serve. Mr. Crossman said it would serve everything south of Indian Bend Road.

LEISURE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Liz Hildenbrand, Senior Recreation Coordinator, and Kira Peters, Recreation Leader III, provided the Commission with an update on the Fee Assistance Program and upcoming changes.

Commissioner Anderson asked if the Fee Assistance program applies to all programs. Ms. Hildenbrand said it does not apply to every program but most can use it. For programs that each participant has to be paid individually the Fee Assistance Program is not eligible. For Outdoor Recreation programs, part of the fees can be eligible for fee assistance.

Commissioner Cerimeli asked if the application can be done over phone or on-line or is it only a written application. Ms. Hildenbrand said not any longer only written applications are accepted. Commissioner Cerimeli asked if there was an interview. Ms. Hildenbrand said only if there are questions. Social Services will schedule an interview if there are questions.

Vice-chair Loper asked if there was an age limit. Ms. Hildenbrand said there was not. Some other cities provide assistance to children only. We believe it is a good program for youth through seniors. Ms. Peters said the majority of participants are kids.

Commissioner Heckman noted that the programs at regular price are such a value already. He asked how the determination was made to use 85% as the baseline. Ms. Hildenbrand said it was a number that staff felt would work and be successful. There are some circumstances where a decision is made by the parent to select the program or leave the kids home alone. The 85% will provide for some ownership by the participant. Commissioner Heckman asked if the requirement to turn in a tax return was in place there before this change. Ms. Hildenbrand said that policy was instituted 3 years ago with the more formal process. Commissioner Heckman noted participation has still escalated. Ms. Hildenbrand said that Staff has marketed the program.

Commissioner Oliver asked if it was possible to designate the \$1 on the water bill to go toward the Fee Assistance Program. Ms. Weiss said that the guidelines for Scottsdale Cares are set and at this time that would not be possible.

Chairperson Hersey asked if the application is bilingual. Ms. Hildenbrand said it is available in Spanish.

Commissioner Oliver asked how undocumented individuals are handled. Ms. Hildenbrand said you have to be a resident of Scottsdale and be able to verify that. The program is not limited to US citizens.

UPDATE FROM INDIAN SCHOOL PARK

Walt Johnson, Recreation Coordinator, provided the Commission with an update on programs, activities, and events at Indian School Park including the Giants and spring training, sports camps, tennis leagues and lessons, volleyball leagues, and park rentals.

Commissioner Cerimeli noted that he loves the park and thinks it is always well maintained and good looking. He grew up in the summer programs at Indian School Park.

Vice-chair Loper asked if this is a community level park. Ms. Johnson said it is. Vice-chair Loper asked if taxpayers make up the difference in the operating budget and the revenue. Mr. Johnson said the funds come from the general fund and the revenues are deposited back into the General Fund.

Commissioner Heckman asked with the shift of activity to the Giants' new facility how much time will be freed up for use. Mr. Johnson said the maintenance level will remain the same. The Giants will be there about 6 weeks a year and about 7 months will be freed up for other uses.

UPDATE FROM THE SCOTTSDALE STADIUM

Tiffani Nichols, Stadium Coordinator, and Amy Boenning, Recreation Leader III, provided the Commission with an update on programs, activities, and events at Scottsdale Stadium including Spring Training, special events, private rentals, and meetings.

Commissioner Anderson asked how the parking is handled during Spring Training. Ms. Nichols said there is a shuttle from Loloma and through Fifth Avenue that was very popular this year. Commissioner Anderson asked if the stadium seating will ever be increased. Ms. Nichols said the 11,000 is set by the Fire Marshall as the capacity for the stadium.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)

Chairperson Hersey called for any items from the floor or the Commission. There were none.

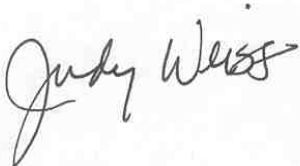
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Heckman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

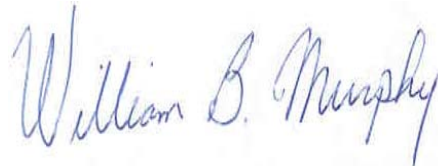
With no further business to be brought before the Commission, Chairperson Hersey adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Johnson, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.



Judy Weiss, Director
Parks and Recreation



William Murphy, Director
Parks and Grounds Maintenance